

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 06366 261547Z
ACTION H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY6914

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H-PASS HONORABLE MATTHEW J. RINALDO
UNITED STATES CONGRESSMAN
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS CPRS:(GAMACHE; GLORIA KEAN, CLAIM OF TO DECEASED MOTHER'S ESTATE
)
SUBJECT: AMERICAN PROPERTY: CLAIM OF MRS. GLORIA KEAN GAMACHE TO DE-
CEASED MOTHER'S BANK ACCOUNT IN GREECE;

1. REFERENCE IS MADE TO YOUR LETTER OF JULY 12, 1978 IN WHICH YOU INQ
UIRED
ON BEHALF OF YOUR CONSTITUENT, MRS. GLORIA KEAN GAMACHE, ABOUT THE
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TRANSFER OF A BANK ACCOUNT OF HER LATE MOTHER,
KATHRYN KEAN, FROM GREECE TO THE UNITED STATES.

2. THE EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT PRIOR TO ANY ACTION FOR TRANSFER, MRS
. GAMACHE MUST ESTABLISH HER CLAIM TO THE ESTATE AND HAVE THE ACCOUNT
TRANSFERRED TO HER NAME. TRANSFER MUST BE PRECEDED BY PAYMENT OF THE
ESTATE TAX. AS MRS. GAMACHE WILL NEED LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN CONNECTION
WITH THESE FORMALITIES, A LIST OF ENGLISH-SPEAKING LAWYERS PRACTICING
IN
ATHENS AND MYTILENE WILL BE FORWARDED TO YOU BY MAIL FOR DELIVERY TO
HER,
AND FOR HER SELECTION OF CONSEL. YOU MAY WISH TO INFORM HER THAT FEDE
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RAL
REGULATIONS DO NOT PERMIT THE EMBASSY TO RECOMEND OR DESIGNATE ANY
PARTICULAR LOWYER OR OTHER LEGAL PRACTITIONER.
3. WITH REGARD TO TRANSFER OF THE ACCOUNT TO THE UNITED STATES,
THE EXPORT OF FUNDS FROM GREECE IS RESTRICTED BY LAW AND CAN BE EFFEC
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ONLY WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S CURRENCY COMMITTEE
(NIMISMATIKI EPITROPI), BANK OF GREECE, 17 PANEPISTIMIOU STREET,
ATHENS, TO WHICH AN EXPORT PETITION MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE INTEREST

E
D

PERSON OR HIS AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE IN GREECE. APPROVAL IS OFTEN
DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN. IF MRS. GAMACHE'S PETITION SHOULD BE DENIED,
UNDER THE PROCEDURE GOVERNING THE STATUS OF BANK ACCOUNTS OF NON-RESI
DENTS

OF GREECE, THE ACCOUNT WILL BE BLOCKED IN A LOCAL BANK AFTER TRANSFER
ON HER NAME. BLOCKED ACCOUNTS EARN A 6.5 PER CENT ANNUAL INTEREST.
SMALL SUMS OF MONEY MAY BE RELEASED THEREFROM FOR EXPORT ABROAD ON
COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS - ILL-HEALTH OR ADVANCED AGE AND INABILITY OF
ACCOUNT HOLDER TO SUPPORT HIMSELF AND SECURE MEDICAL CARE - UPON
PETITION TO THE COMMITTEE, ACCOMPANIED BY A STATEMENT SIGNED BY A GRE
EK

CONSULAR OFFICER IN THE AREA OF RESIDENCE OF THE PETITIONER, ATTESTIN
G

TO THE DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES, HOWEVER, IF MRS. GAMACHE TRAVELS TO
GREECE SHE WILL BE PERMITTED TO DRAW UP TO A MAXIMUM OF 100,000
DRACHMAE (APPROXIMATELY \$2,733) PER MONTH SPENT IN GREECE FOR HER OWN
USE AND SUPPORT.

4. THE EMBASSY HOPES FOREGOING INFORMATION WILL BE HELPFUL TO YOU AND
MRS. GAMACHE, AND WILL BE PLEASE, IF CALLED UPON, TO ASSIST FURTHER I

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THIS MATTER.
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